

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently amended) A method for retaining superabsorbent material within a web of cellulose fibers comprising:

providing oil treated cellulose fibers comprising cellulose fibers and an oil applied to the cellulose fibers, ~~having an oil applied thereto~~ the oil having a melting point below the temperature at which the oil is applied to the cellulose fibers; and

~~contacting~~ combining a superabsorbent material with the oil treated cellulose fibers ~~treated with an oil~~.

19. (Currently amended) A method for retaining superabsorbent material within a web of cellulose fibers comprising:

providing oil treated superabsorbent material comprising superabsorbent material and an oil applied to the superabsorbent material ~~having an oil applied thereto~~, the oil having a melting point below the temperature at which the oil is applied to the superabsorbent material; and

~~contacting~~ combining cellulose fibers with the oil treated superabsorbent material ~~treated with an oil~~.

20. (New) The method of Claim 18, wherein the oil comprises a triglyceride.

21. (New) The method of Claim 18, wherein the oil is a fatty acid.

22. (New) The method of Claim 18, wherein the oil is olive oil, soybean oil, safflower oil, cotton seed oil, linseed oil, tongue oil, castrol oil, coconut oil, canola oil, corn oil, or jojoba oil.

23. (New) The method of Claim 18, wherein the oil is a saturated or unsaturated alkane, alkene, alkyne, cycloalkane, cycloalkene, cycloalkyne, or combinations thereof.

24. (New) The method of Claim 18, wherein the oil is selected from the group consisting of mineral oil, hexadecane, squalane, and squalene.

25. (New) The method of Claim 18, wherein the cellulose fibers are wood pulp fibers.

26. (New) The method of Claim 19, wherein the oil comprises a triglyceride.

27. (New) The method of Claim 19, wherein the oil is a fatty acid.

28. (New) The method of Claim 19, wherein the oil is olive oil, soybean oil, safflower oil, cotton seed oil, linseed oil, tongue oil, castrol oil, coconut oil, canola oil, corn oil, or jojoba oil.

29. (New) The method of Claim 19, wherein the oil is a saturated or unsaturated alkane, alkene, alkyne, cycloalkane, cycloalkene, cycloalkyne, or combinations thereof.

30. (New) The method of Claim 19, wherein the oil is selected from the group consisting of mineral oil, hexadecane, squalane, and squalene.

31. (New) The method of Claim 19, wherein the cellulose fibers are wood pulp fibers.

32. (New) A method for producing oil treated cellulose fibers comprising:
providing a wet laid sheet of cellulose fibers;
applying an oil to the wet laid sheet of cellulose fibers to produce an oil treated wet laid sheet of cellulose fibers; and
fiberizing the oil treated wet laid sheet of cellulose fibers.

33. (New) The method of Claim 32, wherein the oil comprises of triglyceride.

34. (New) The method of Claim 32, wherein oil is a fatty acid.

35. (New) The method of Claim 32, wherein the oil is olive oil, soybean oil, safflower oil, cotton seed oil, linseed oil, tongue oil, castrol oil, coconut oil, canola oil, corn oil, or jojoba oil.

36. (New) The method of Claim 32, wherein the oil is a saturated or unsaturated alkane, alkene, alkyne, cycloalkane, cycloalkene, cycloalkyne, or combinations thereof.

37. (New) The method of Claim 32, wherein the oil is selected from the group consisting of mineral oil, hexadecane, squalane, and squalene.

38. (New) The method of Claim 32, wherein the cellulose fibers are wood pulp fibers.